Sparks from Father Mark

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

May 18, 2008

Back in March I told you about several spring and summer projects on the drawing boards with the Landscaping, Building and Maintenance, and Liturgy committees. The Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee have also been involved.

We are still working on the idea of a Mary's Garden near our new patio. The garden would include a walking path highlighting aspects of Mary's life. It would be good to honor Mary in this way, especially when the name of our parish community is Our Lady of the Black Hills. This path has great potential for drawing us deeper into the mystery of a people who say "yes" to the Lord in our lives.

We are also in the process of designing a new sign for the front of the Church, and are considering the possibility of building a bell tower as well.

And we want to replace the carpet in the gathering area with new carpet or a combination of carpet and tile. The present carpet was laid in 1996 and is showing a great deal of wear and tear. Carpet One gave us an estimate on having the present carpet stretched, but they said it would not be worth it.

I have asked for feedback from the parish community on these projects and so far have received several drawings, pictures, photographs, and ideas. I want to say thank you for this good feedback.

But thinking about the work ahead has been at times overwhelming. So, to get the ball rolling, I decided to break the outdoor projects into two committees. If you have any ideas, please feel free to contact the committee members, or join in on the work.

Mary's Garden Committee: Becky Lyle (787-6536), Jim Wranek (342-4979), Jim Kattke (787-6574), Tom Van Asma (716-9299), Marty Quinn (787-6453), Grant Coffin (718-7431), Duane Riedlinger (787-5449), Wes Mendenhall (787-5998).

Sign and Bell Tower Committee: Becky Lyle (787-6536), Jim Wranek (342-4979), Larry Williamson (787-7075), Lorraine Ptacek (716-9239), Jane Abernathy (716-0286), Terry Nelson (786-2093), Warren Albertson (791-0829), Phillip Thompson (787-4231), Don Thrall (787-5105), Donovan Broberg (341-2066).

Springtime Blessings,

The Week Ahead

May 19-25, 2008

Monday, May 19

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 3:13-18; Psalm 19:8-10, 15; Mark 9:14-29

8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Intention: Sr. Mary Lou and Sr. Therese
6:00 pm: Women's Encounter
7:15 pm: Pastoral Council meeting
6:30 pm: Cub Scouts

Tuesday, May 20

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 4:1-10; Psalm 55:7-11, 23; Mark 9:30-37

8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Intention: Sr. Bernard and Sr. Anne
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wednesday, May 21

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 4:13-17; Psalm 49:2-3, 6-11; Mark 9:38-40

5:30 pm: Daily Liturgy
Intention: Healing for victims of abuse
7:00 pm: High School Youth Event

Thursday, May 22

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 5:1-6; Psalm 49:14-20; Mark 9:41-50

8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
Intention: Sr. Marlene and Sr. Mary Herman

Friday, May 23

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 5:9-12; Psalm 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12; Mark 10: 1-12

No Daily Liturgy

Saturday, May 24

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: James 5:13-20; Psalm 141:1-3, 8; Mark 10:13-16

8:00 am: Daily Liturgy with Eucharistic Adoration and Morning Prayer
Intention: Sr. Louise and Sr. Dolores
3:30 – 4:30 pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Evening, May 24

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Liturgical Color: White
Readings: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16; Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

5:00 pm: Sunday Liturgy
Intention: OLBH Parish Community

Sunday, May 25

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Liturgical Color: White
Readings: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16; Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

8:00 am: Sunday Liturgy
Intention: That we may live and be Eucharist every day

10:30 am: Sunday Liturgy with Baptism of Sullivan Patrick Thaler
Intention: Sullivan Patrick Thaler and his family on this day of his Baptism

Parish Community News

May 18, 2008

Congratulations Graduates!

I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the day Christ Jesus comes. (Philippians 1:6)

Blessings to Sarah Cresalia, Jessica Ferley, Jessica Long, Misty McPherson, Jacqui Osnes, Tanner Quinn, Katie Strand, Chris Venjohn, Amanda Williamson, Caitlin Wilson

High School Youth Event
Wednesday, May 21, 7 pm

KC Pancake Breakfast

Come on down for a pancake breakfast with all the fixins, Sunday, May 18, 8 am – noon. All proceeds will go to the Seminarian Fund.

Memorial Day Mass

Fr. Mark will offer a Memorial Day Mass at the Piedmont Cemetery, Monday, May 26, at 8:00 am. Hope to see you there!

Women's Encounter

Our next Women's Encounter will be held Monday, May 19, 6:00 to 7:15 pm. Father Mark will lead a discussion on *Biblical Women: Guides to the Kingdom of God*. Questions? Call Kathy Van Asma at 787-6218.

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday, May 19, 7:15 to 9:00 pm

Summertime Home Masses

It's a wonderful OLBH tradition! Throughout the summer we will gather at different Parishioners' homes for Mass followed by a social hour. The dates are June 10 and 24, July 2 and 23, and August 13 and 27 at 6 pm. Feel free to bring simple snacks or desserts for sharing. If you would like to host a Mass at your home, please sign up in the gathering area.

Welcome Fr. John and Fr. Godfrey

Let's join together as a parish community on Wednesday, May 28, to say hello to Fr. John and Fr. Godfrey, the Ugandan priests serving in our diocese. The Fathers will celebrate Mass with us at 5:30 pm, and share their stories with us. Then we will sit down together for a potluck supper. Let's give them a hearty welcome and a good taste of OLBH potluck cooking!

Basket Auction and 50s Fun Night! Saturday May 31, 6 pm

Grab a burger from our 50s diner, place your bids on some baskets; help make it possible for our youth and their sponsors to attend Steubenville of the Rockies and World Youth Day 2008. Check out the baskets displayed in the gathering area!

News from Around the Diocese

May 18, 2008

World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests

"The priest, nourished by the Word of God, is a universal witness to Christ's charity."

Friday, May 30, is the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is also the World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests. It is a day set aside by the Church to pray for our priests, that they may be strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for the priests throughout our diocese on this day and every day.

A Gift for Our Priests

Have you ever wanted to give your priest a gift and not known what to give? How about giving an hour or two of your time in prayer? During the Diocesan Priests Retreat June 2-6, the Cathedral of OLPH is offering a Solemn Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in honor of our priests. We wish to thank God for our all they do for us, and ask Him for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to help our priests in their work. Adoration will begin 8 am on June 2 and conclude at noon on June 6. Signup sheets will be placed at each parish. For further information you may call Judy Zetah at 721-2921, Gail Wingert at 348-4073, or Jean Hohm at 399-9522. Thank you.

Annual Rummage Sale

St. Therese Church
Friday, June 6, 7 am – 3 pm
Saturday, June 7, 7 am – noon

Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima

Please join us for the annual conference Saturday, June 21, 8 am to 5 pm at Blessed Sacrament Church. Guest speakers will be Father Andrew Apostoli of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in New York City, and Michael LaCorte, Executive Director of the World Apostolate of Fatima. Tickets for the conference are $10 and lunch is available for an additional $5. To purchase tickets contact Ellen Robertson at 718-9909.

Transcending Suffering: Spirituality and Maintaining Compassion in the Encounter with Human Pain

The featured speaker, Dominic Vachon, M.Div., Ph.D., is a psychologist on the clinical faculty at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in South Bend, Indiana, and an Adjunct Professor in the Psychology and Theology departments at Notre Dame University. He is the founder of the Institute for Support and Study of the Caring Professionals. His research has focused on the psychology and spirituality of caring for others. This free lecture is sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of the Black Hills. It is open to the public and will begin at 7 pm on Monday, June 2 in the West Auditorium of Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

May 24-25, 2008

Ministry	Saturday, May 24 5:00 pm	Sunday, May 25 8:00 am	Sunday, May 25 10:30 am
Bread Baker	Lori Kline	Lori Kline	Lori Kline
Altar Servers	Jessica Schacher Kimberly Schacher Celena Sass	Kevin Chamberlain Megan Czmowski Olivia Lyle	Austin Evans Kaleah Evans Whitney Werdel
Precious Blood	Charlie Desmond Jayme Hunt Reggie Hunt Jim Scherr	Brenda Czmowski Teresa Thompson Larry Williamson Judy Wilson	Bernadette Usera John Usera Ken Van Asma Kathy Van Asma
Precious Body	Bob Sass	Marty Quinn	Denise McCormick
Lectors	Sarah Cresalia Bob Sass	Joyce Williamson Larry Williamson	Michelle Bucholz Laura Varilek
Sacristans	Patty and Charlie Cresalia	Donna and Frank Boner	Kathy and Ken Van Asma
Ushers	Becky and Ken Wentz	Don Everson Tom Van Asma	Pam and Bob Wentz
Choir	Family Choir	Regina's Minstrels	Folk Group

Intercessory Prayers

Life and Health Concerns

Gene Albrecht, Janice Collings, Joe Creek, Marianne Lee, Mitch Linster, Sharon Long, Barb Scherr, Enola Sorlie, Peggy Volin, Mary Kay Young

Repose

Bob Lauinger, Father Andy Morvay, Marie Verhey

The Collection Basket

May 10-11, 2008

Loose	$2,189.56
Envelopes	2,722.00
Votive	4.06
Student	63.91
Other	269.00
Total	$5,248.53

For the Ride Home

May 18, 2008

Scripture

- The Lord, the Lord, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity. (Exodus 34:6)
- Blessed are you who look into the depths. (Daniel 3:55)
- The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (2 Corinthians 13:13)
- God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Reflection

- Is there someone you know who models our merciful and gracious God in the way he or she treats other with kindness and fidelity?
- If you were able to look past the superficiality that is the world and peer into the depths of your being, what would you find?
- How do you define the grace of the Lord Jesus?
- What is the only way to avoid perishing in the chaos and conflict that is the world? How do you find this way?

When I consent to the will and mercy of God as it comes to me in the events of life, appealing to my inner self and awakening my faith, I break through the superficial exterior appearances that form my routine vision of the world and my own self, and I find myself in the presence of hidden majesty. It may appear to me that this majesty and presence is something objective, something outside of myself. Yet this is a majesty that we do not see with our eyes and it is within ourselves. It is the mission of the Word and Spirit, from the Father, in the depths of my own being. It is a majesty communicated to us, shared with us, so that our whole being is filled with the gift of glory and responds with adoration.[1]

[1] Merton, Thomas, *New Seeds of Contemplation*, (New York: New Directions, 1961), 41-42.